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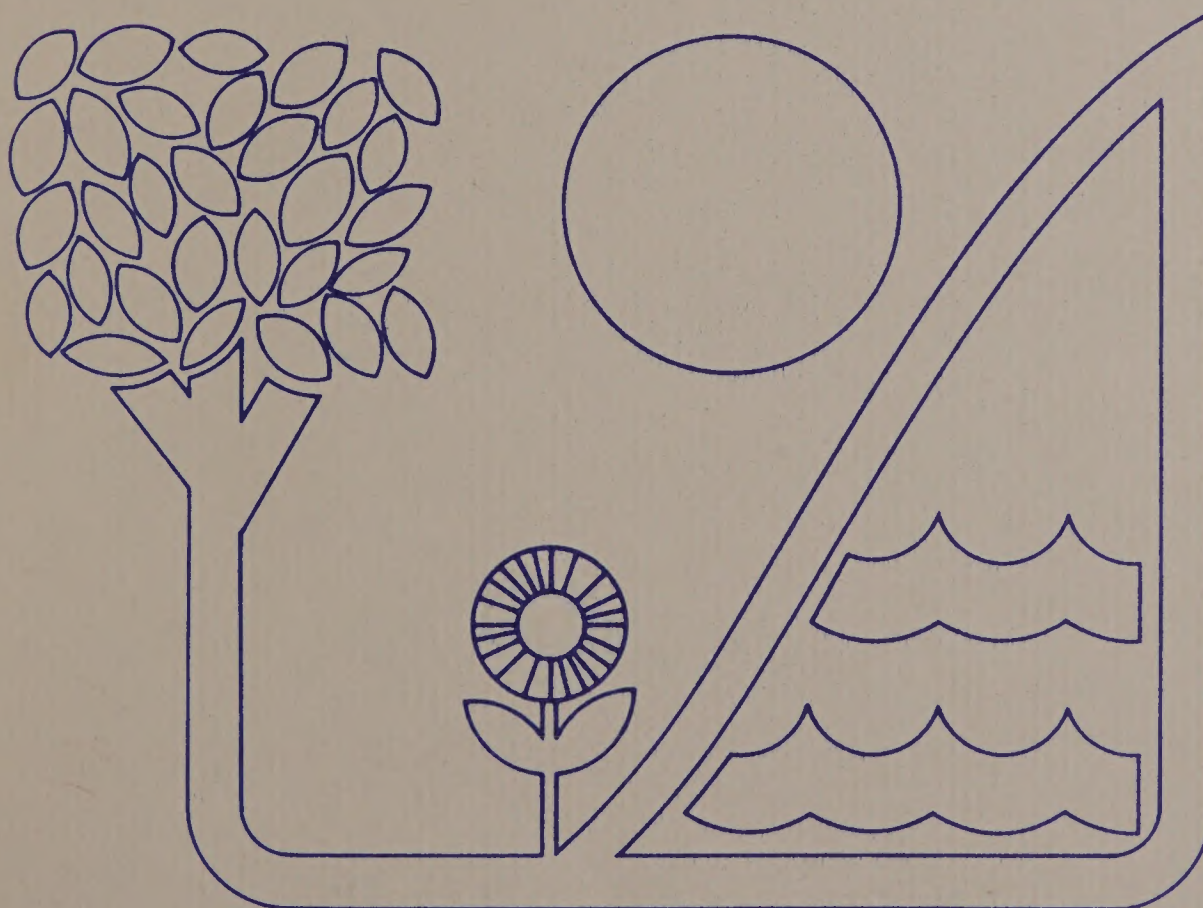
# STAFF REPORT



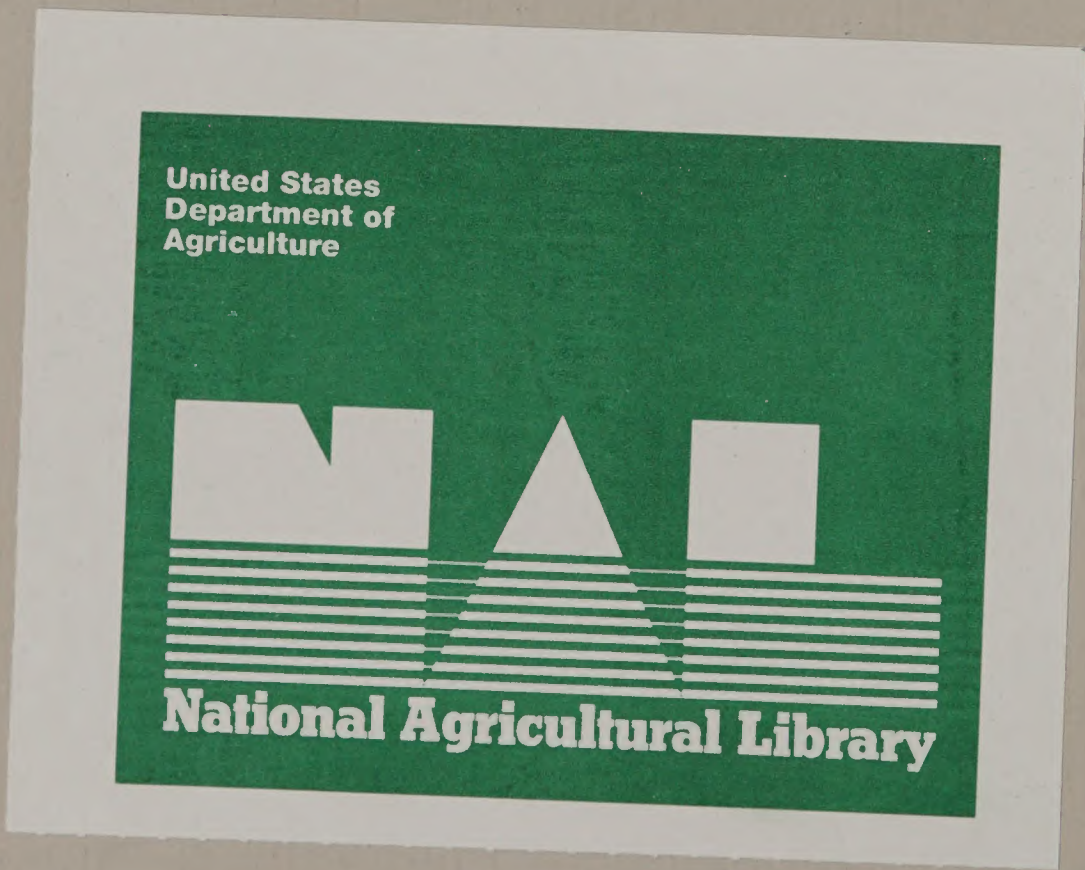
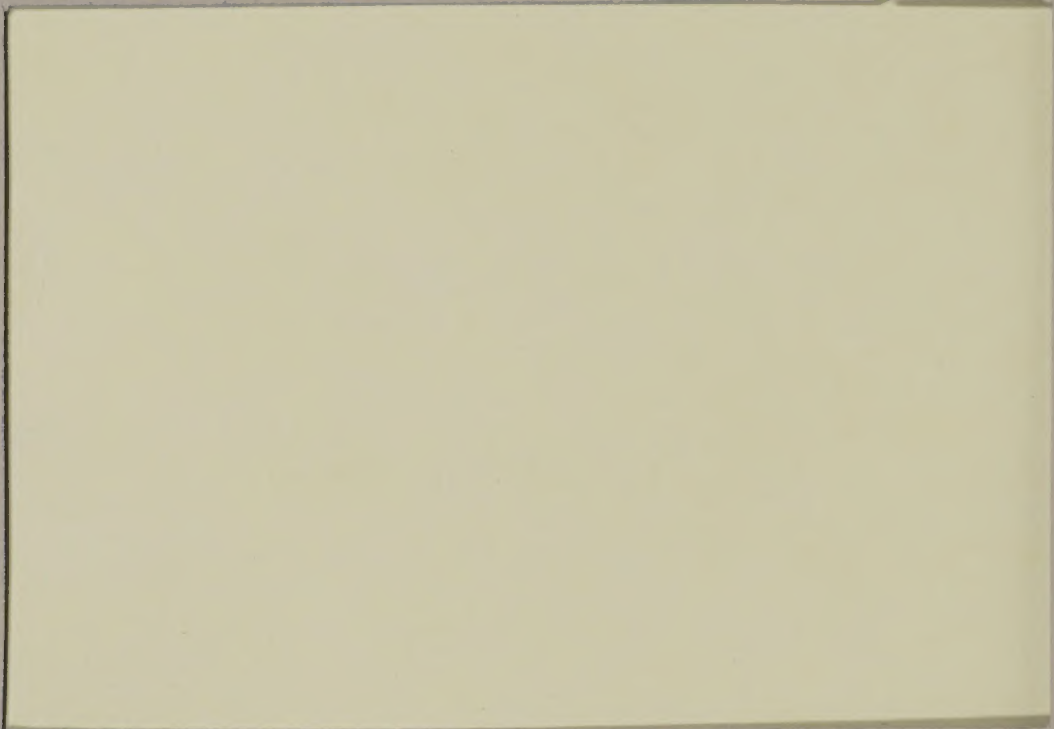
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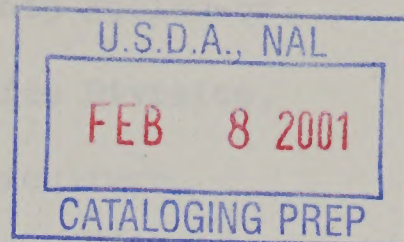
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ADDITIONS TO CROPLAND, 1975-77

A REPORT ON A LANDOWNERSHIP FOLLOW-ON SURVEY

ESS STAFF REPORT NO. AGE8810501

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May 1981

Natural Resource Economics Division  
Economics and Statistics Service  
U.S. Department of Agriculture  
Washington, D.C. 20250





ADDITIONS TO CROPLAND, 1975-77--A Report on a Landownership Follow-on Survey. By Arthur B. Daugherty, Natural Resource Economics Division, Economics and Statistics Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250, ESS Staff Report No. AGESS810501, May 1981.

ABSTRACT

An estimated 9.1 million acres of land were converted to crop production by more than 220,000 landowners during the 1975-77 period. More than 60 percent of the new cropland was previously in pasture, grass, or rangeland. More than half the land had not been previously used for crop production. One third of the land was cleared of brush or trees prior to use as cropland. More than 85 percent of the owners indicated that about 85 percent of the land would continue in crop production in the future.

Key Words: Cropland, land utilization, landowners, acreage, land improvement, decisionmaking

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\* This paper was prepared for limited distribution to the \*  
\* research community outside the U.S. Department of Agri- \*  
\* culture. \*  
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ADDITIONS TO CROPLAND, 1975-77  
A report on a Landownership Follow-on Survey

INTRODUCTION

This report is based on a portion of the Resource Economics Survey, a 1978 survey of landowners in the United States, conducted by the Natural Resource Economics Division (NRED) of the Economics and Statistics Service (ESS), U.S. Department of Agriculture. The Resource Economics Survey was comprised of a 12-part package to collect inter-related data on and about land resources.

The first part of the package, the Soil Conservation Service's 1977 National Resource Inventory, provided data on the use and quality of the land. The second part of the package, the 1978 Landownership Survey (LOS), provided information on landowners--what, where, and who they are. A statistical summary of the landownership survey was released in 1980.<sup>1/</sup>

The 1978 LOS also contained a series of questions concerning land transactions, capital expenditures, land use changes and other land management practices. These questions were used as screening questions to identify prospective respondents for a series of 10 follow-on questionnaires. These 10 follow-on questionnaires--each sent to a subsample of the respondents to the LOS--complete the 12-part Resource Economics

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<sup>1/</sup> James A. Lewis, LANDOWNERSHIP IN THE UNITED STATES, 1978, Agricultural Information Bulletin No. 435. Natural Resource Economics Division; Economics, Statistics, and Cooperatives Service; U.S. Department of Agriculture; Washington, D.C., April 1980.







Survey. The 10 follow-on surveys were: 1) Additions to Cropland; 2) Cropland Acreage Reduction; 3) Land Purchases and Acquisitions; 4) Land Sales and Transfer; 5) Land Clearing Investment; 6) Drainage Investment; 7) Investment in Conservation Structures; 8) Changes in Conservation Practices (conservation disinvestments); 9) Irrigation Investments; and 10) Irrigation Disinvestments.

Screening questions on the LOS determined if a landowner had a particular activity during 1975, 1976, or 1977. By using the screening questions on the main survey, the maximum amount of data was obtained with the shortest questionnaire possible and only those respondents that reported a particular activity were surveyed for that activity in the Landownership Follow-on Surveys. The 1975-77 time period was selected as the longest time period for which accurate information could likely be obtained. More than one year was used in order to obtain more observations of a particular activity and improve the reliability of estimates of the activity surveyed.

The data presented in this report on the results of the Additions to Cropland survey provide information reported by landowners on the past, present (1978), and planned (1980) uses of the land converted to crop production in the 48 conterminous States during the 1975-77 period. The data also provide information on the factors considered important by the owner in the decision to change the land use; the time period when the land was acquired and during which it was used previously as cropland; and improvements made on the land associated with the cropland use.







## THE FOLLOW-ON SURVEY

The adequacy of the Nation's supply of agricultural land to meet future demands for agricultural production is an issue of growing concern. As the landowner is the ultimate decision-maker regarding the use of the land he owns, information was needed on land converted to crop production which could be analyzed in conjunction with the characteristics of the landowner from the LOS. Such analyses should provide information useful in developing policies to encourage socially desirable land use objectives. This report summarizes only the results of the Additions to Cropland follow-on survey. However, an analytical report is planned which will examine interrelationships between characteristics of landowners and land converted to cropland during the 1975-77 period.

The screening question in the LOS used to identify sample points whose owners had added land to crop production during the 1975-77 period was:

"14. Of the land you own in the county did you **CONVERT** any **LAND TO CROPLAND** during 1975-76-77 that had not been recently cropped?

049-1

☐ YES

049-2

☐ NO"

The above screening question produced 4,058 positive responses from the 36,710 sample points in the conterminous United States on which owners provided data in the LOS. Of the 4,058 positive responses to the screening question, 2,399 were selected for the Additions to Cropland follow-on survey. Inclusion of all points with a positive response to the screening question in the follow-on sample would have been desirable.





However, to minimize respondent burden, no sample point was included in more than 3 of 8 follow-on surveys.<sup>2/</sup> Sample points from the LOS that qualified for more than 3 follow-ons were randomly assigned--with known probability--to only 3. Points qualifying for multiple follow-ons were first assigned to those follow-ons with the smallest number of responses to their respective screening question. Data for the selected points were then expanded to represent all points qualifying for inclusion in the follow-on survey.

A more detailed discussion of the survey method used in the multi-part Resource Economics Survey is presented in Appendix 1 of Landownership in the United States (see 1/). This discussion also includes a description and examples of the expansion factors used in the LOS. All data presented on the conversion of land to crop production have been weighted, using expansion factors developed for the LOS. Use of these weights therefore provides estimates of U.S. totals for all data concerning land added to crop production during the 1975-77 period. Before the LOS weights were utilized for the follow-on data, they were adjusted for: 1) the rate of subsampling from the positive responses to the LOS screening questions to the final follow-on sample, and 2) the non-respondents to the final follow-on sample.

Of the 2,399 points included in the Additions to Cropland follow-on sample, owners of 1,033 (43 percent) of the sample points responded with data concerning land taken out of crops during the 1975-77 period. (A

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<sup>2/</sup> Selection of sample points for the Irrigation Investments and Disinvestments follow-on surveys was handled separately.





copy of the follow-on survey questionnaire is included herein as Appendix 1.) Owners of an additional 1,144 (48 percent) of the sample points surveyed in this follow-on returned questionnaires indicating they had not converted land to crop production, in spite of the fact they had so indicated on the main survey screening question. There was no response to the follow-on survey for the remaining 222 (9 percent) of the sample points.

The number of respondents who indicated they had not converted land to crops on the follow-on after indicating they had done so on the LOS screening question was quite high. There seems to be no plausible explanation for this action. However, due to budget and time constraints there was no follow-up subsampling of either respondents answering "No" to the LOS screening questions or those responding negatively to the follow-on survey after answering "Yes" to the follow-on screening question.

Brief highlights of the principal survey findings are presented in the next section. The data are presented in the tables following the survey highlights. Tables 2 through 6 contain categories for "acres over reported" and/or "acres under reported." These categories were used in an accounting sense so that each landowner's response accounted for all the land reported to have been converted to crop production in table 1. For example, acres over reported could occur if an owner made an error in distributing the total acres among alternative uses. Acres under reported indicates that the respondent did not account for all acres reported to have been added to crop production when answering questions





requiring the total acreage be allocated among categories such as land use or period of acquisition.

In tables 2-6, acres over reported comprise 2 percent or less while acres under reported do not exceed 4 percent of the total acreage converted to crop production during the 1975-77 period. Acres with no improvements and/or under reported in table 7 comprised 10 percent of the land converted to cropland during the 3-year period. However, it is not possible to determine what portion of the acreage is under reported and what actually had no improvements. Since more than one improvement could be reported legitimately on a given area of land, acres over reported were not indicated. They do comprise the difference between the sum of acres by improvement in table 7 and the acres shown for "Total reporting improvements." This amounts to nearly 4.1 million acres reported by an estimated 70,423 landowners indicating 2 or more improvements made to the land they converted to cropland.

Coefficients of variation were computed for selected data items presented in some of the tables. Coefficients of variation (CV's) provide a means of evaluating survey results. Since CV's express variation as a fraction of the sample mean, the smaller the CV the greater the reliability of the estimate. Therefore, a statistic with a CV of 10 percent is more reliable than one with a CV of 20 percent. In interpreting CV's, if an item has a CV of 10 percent, chances are 2 out of 3 that an interval constructed to represent a range from 90 to 110 percent of the survey value would contain the true population value. Chances are 19 out of 20 (with a CV of 10 percent) that an interval constructed to represent a range from 80 to 120 percent of the survey value





contains the true population value.

## SURVEY HIGHLIGHTS

### Land Converted to Cropland, 1975-77

Land was converted to crop production by an estimated 220,737 owners during the 1975-77 period (table 1). Based on the coefficient of variation for this estimate, the 95 percent confidence interval is from 180,000 to 262,000 owners converting land to crop production during the 1975-77 period. Landowners were estimated to have added 9.1 million acres to crop production during the 1975-77 period. The 95 percent confidence interval for this estimate (based on the CV shown in table 1) would be from 7.6 million to 10.7 million acres. The land added to crop production in 1975 accounted for 22 percent of the estimated 9.1 million acres converted to crops during the 3-year period, reported by 35 percent of the landowners making cropland additions during the period. Thirty eight percent of the land was converted to crop production in 1976 and 40 percent added in 1977 by 44 percent and 50 percent of the owners reporting additions to cropland, respectively.

A total of 79 percent of the owners converted land to crop production in only one of the three years. Thirteen percent added cropland acreage in two of the three years, while 8 percent of the owners reported converting land to crop production in each year of the period.

### Past, Present and Planned Future Uses of the

#### Land Converted to Cropland

Pasture or rangeland comprised the largest area--nearly 5.8 million





acres (64 percent)--prior to conversion of the land to crop production (table 2). More than 1.5 million acres (17 percent) were idle prior to being converted to crop production. Timber or pulp production had been the previous use on nearly 1.4 million acres (15 percent) of the new cropland.

Some 35 percent of the owners indicated 22 percent of the land converted to crops during the 1975-77 period was in corn in 1978 (table 3). An additional 17 percent of the land reported by 18 percent of the owners was in soybeans. Wheat was reported by 8 percent of the landowners on 16 percent of the added cropland. Ten percent of the land converted to crops was in hay in 1978. The rest of the land for which the 1978 use was reported was in grain sorghum, other small grains, cotton, other crops or was fallow.

Respondents to the Additions to Cropland follow-on survey were asked if they expected the land converted to crop production in 1975-77 to be used for crops in 1980. Nearly 87 percent of the owners indicated that 85 percent of the converted land would continue in crops (table 4). An estimated 8 percent of the land was predicted by 9 percent of the owners to be in pasture or range by 1980. Small acreages were estimated to be changed to trees; recreation uses; residential, commercial, industrial or transportation uses; to be idle or in other uses.

#### Period of Acquisition and Previous

#### Use for Crop Production

More than two-fifths of the land converted to crop production during the 1975-77 period was acquired by the owner during the 1974-77





period (table 5). This period of acquisition was indicated by 34 percent of the owners reporting additions to cropland. An additional 24 percent of the acreage owned by 35 percent of the owners was acquired from 1965-73. Thirty percent of the land converted to crop production had been acquired before 1965 by 29 percent of the owners.

More than 4.9 million acres (54 percent) of the land converted to crop production werereported not to have been used previously for crop production (table 6). Of the land that had been used previously for crops, more than half had been out of crop production more than 10 years. Less than 10 percent of the converted land previously cropped had been out of crop production from 5 to 10 years while less than 5 percent had been out of production less than 5 years.

#### Improvements Made on the Converted Cropland

More than 80 percent of the landowners reported one or more improvements on about 79 percent of the land converted to crop production during the 1975-77 period (table 7). More than half the owners converting land to crops reported clearing brush or trees from 35 percent of the added cropland. Leveling, drainage, irrigation, and removal of rocks and hedgerows was reported by 16, 15, 11 and 14 percent of the owners on 20, 19, 15 and 12 percent of the area converted to crops, respectively. In addition, grass waterways, gully control structures, terraces and other improvements were installed on small areas of the land converted to crop production during the 1975-77 period.





Factors Affecting the Decision to  
Convert the Land to Crop Production

Landowners converting land to crop production indicated a number of factors important in their land use decision (table 8). The factor indicated most frequently was to achieve a more efficient farming operation. This reason was cited by 61 percent of the owners who converted 63 percent of the land to crop production. The second most frequent factor cited was changes in crop prices, indicated by 19 percent of the owners. These owners reported 13 percent of the land converted to crop production during the 1975-77 period. About 10 percent of the owners who converted 17 percent of the land indicated changes in livestock prices as an important factor in the decision to change the land use.

Other specific factors indicated in decreasing order of owners reporting include: 1) increased availability of operating or investment capital; 2) flood protection, drainage improvement, or irrigation water provided by government project; 3) increased availability of labor; 4) availability of a suitable renter or tenant; and 5) a new permit for irrigation water. About 9 percent of the owners indicated factors other than those mentioned above were important in the decision to convert nearly 11 percent of the 9.1 million acres to crop production.





Table 1--Landowners who converted land to crop production and amount of land converted in the conterminous United States, 1975-77, by year or combinations of years.

Year or combination of years	Owners		Land converted	
	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Acres</u>	<u>Percent</u>
1975 only	46,075	21	1,275,200	14
1976 only	54,459	24	2,386,300	26
1977 only	74,630	34	2,662,900	29
1975 and 1976	9,121	4	428,900	5
1975 and 1977	3,715	2	259,600	3
1976 and 1977	14,484	7	988,900	11
1975, 1976 and 1977	18,253	8	1,116,800	12
Total, 1975-77	220,737	100	9,118,600	100
	<u>2/(9.3)</u>		(8.6)	
Totals, by years: <u>1/</u>				
1975	77,163	35	2,042,300	22
	(19.3)		(10.7)	
1976	96,317	44	3,429,700	38
	(10.3)		(10.5)	
1977	111,082	50	3,646,600	40
	(12.1)		(16.3)	

1/ The sum of total owners, by years, who converted land to crop production exceeds the total owners reporting for the 3-year period due to some owners reporting land converted to cropland in two or more of the three years (see top portion of table above).

2/ Numbers in parentheses are coefficients of variation for the estimated values immediately above.

Source: 1978 Resource Economics Survey.



Table 2--Previous use of land converted to crop production in the conterminous United States, 1975-77

Previous land use	Owners		Land converted	
	Number	Percent	Acres	Percent
Pasture or rangeland	93,128 <u>1</u> /(8.9)	42	5,799,800 (9.3)	64
Idle	76,223 (15.8)	34	1,521,200 (14.4)	17
Timber or pulp production:	54,795 (27.1)	25	1,395,200 (36.0)	15
Recreation	3,531 (77.5)	2	25,900 (57.5)	<u>3</u> /
Other	9,789 (29.9)	4	222,900 (28.2)	2
No response	3,031 (90.2)	1	153,000 (78.7)	2
Acres under reported	113	<u>3</u> /	4,700	<u>3</u> /
Acres over reported	155	<u>3</u> /	-4,100	- <u>3</u> /
Total	<u>2</u> /220,737 (9.3)	<u>2</u> /100	9,118,600 (8.6)	100

1/ Numbers in parentheses are coefficients of variation for the estimated values immediately above.

2/ The sum of number and percent of owners converting land from previous uses sum to more than the total owners reporting due to some owners reporting land converted from two or more uses and due to the number of owners over reporting or under acres being included in other categories.

3/ Less than 0.5 percent.

Source: 1978 Resource Economics Survey





Table 3--Crops grown in 1978 on land converted to crop production in the conterminous United States, 1974-77.

Crop	Owners		Land Converted	
	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Acres</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Corn	77,808	35	2,025,300	22
Soybeans	40,606	18	1,602,800	17
Wheat	18,013	8	1,433,500	16
All hay	27,452	12	900,100	10
Grain sorghum	9,000	4	327,500	4
Other small grains	18,276	8	862,300	9
Cultivated summer fallow	2,003	1	325,000	4
Cotton	2,050	1	96,600	1
All other crops	58,732	27	795,600	9
No response	12,287	6	578,200	6
Acres under reported	19,844	9	350,000	4
Acres over reported	3,411	2	-178,300	-2
Total	<u>1/</u> 220,737 <u>2/</u> (9.3)	<u>1/</u> 100	9,118,600 (8.6)	100

1/ The sum of number and percent of owners converting land to crops by crop grown on the land in 1978 sum to more than the total owners reporting conversion of land to crop production due to some owners reporting more than one crop grown on land converted to crop production and due to the number of owners over reporting or under reporting acres being included in other categories.

2/ Numbers in parentheses are coefficients of variation for the estimated values immediately above.

Source: 1978 Resource Economics Survey.





Table 4--Planned use in 1980 of land converted to crop production in the conterminous United States, 1975-77

New cropland will continue to be used for crops in 1980	Owners		Land converted	
	Number	Percent	Acres	Percent
Yes	191,013	87	7,730,700	85
No, land will be converted to:				
Pasture grass or rangeland	18,997	9	720,100	8
Trees	6,002	3	17,500	<u>3/</u>
Idle	1,420	1	27,900	<u>3/</u>
Residential commercial, industrial or transportation	3,238	1	26,600	<u>3/</u>
Recreation	853	<u>3/</u>	35,200	<u>3/</u>
Other uses	159	<u>3/</u>	39,100	<u>3/</u>
No response	462	<u>3/</u>	25,600	<u>3/</u>
Acres under reported	6,380	3	282,100	3
Acres over reported	4,940	2	-103,700	-1
Subtotal	<u>1/</u> 25,128	<u>1/</u> 11	1,070,400	12
No response	4,596	2	317,500	3
Total	220,737	100	9,118,600	100
	<u>2/</u> (9.3)		(8.6)	

1/ Number and percent of owners planning to convert land out of crop production again by 1980 sum to more than the subtotal due to some owners reporting land to be converted from cropland to two or more other land uses and due to the number of owners over reporting or under reporting acres included in other land use categories.

2/ Numbers in parentheses are coefficients of variation for the estimated values immediately above.

3/ Less than 0.5 percent.

Source: 1978 Resource Economics Survey.



Table 5--Period of acquisition by present owner of land converted to crop production in the conterminous United States, 1975-77

Time period	Owners		Land converted	
	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Acres</u>	<u>Percent</u>
1974-77	74,478	34	3,734,400	41
1965-73	76,367	35	2,233,700	24
Before 1965	64,814	29	2,726,400	30
No response	7,895	4	330,900	4
Acres under reported	3,450	2	107,700	1
Acres over reported	520	<u>3/</u>	-14,500	<u>3/</u>
Total	<u>1/</u> 220,737 <u>2/</u> (9.3)	<u>1/</u> 100	9,118,600 (8.6)	100

1/ The sum of number and percent of owners converting land to crop production sum to more than the total owners reporting due to some owners reporting land converted to crop production in two or more of the three time periods and due to the number of owners over reporting or under reporting acres being included in other categories.

2/ Numbers in parentheses are coefficients of variation for the estimated values immediately above.

3/ Less than 0.5 percent.

Source: 1978 Resource Economics Survey.





Table 6--Land used at some time previously as cropland and converted back to crop production, 1975-77 in the conterminous United States

Land was previously used for crop production	Owners		Land converted	
	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Acres</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Yes, land converted had been out of production:				
More than 10 years	39,635 1/(15.2)	18	2,074,900 (24.3)	22
From 5-10 years	20,978 (29.1)	10	788,200 (17.9)	9
Less than 5 years	13,771 (30.9)	6	373,900 (20.5)	4
No response	2,369	1	73,600	1
Acres under reported	6,341	3	364,900	4
Acres over reported	206	3/	-34,600	-3/
Subtotal	2/74,871	2/34	3,640,900	40
No	129,369 (13.6)	59	4,936,400 (8.8)	54
Don't know	12,353 (29.2)	6	322,800 (19.3)	4
No response	4,144 (47.9)	2	218,500 (73.2)	2
Total	2/220,737 (9.3)	2/100	9,118,600 (8.6)	100

1/ Numbers in parentheses are coefficients of variation for the estimated values immediately above.

2/ The sum of number and percent of owners converting land to crop production sum to more than the total owners reporting due to some owners reporting land in two or more of the categories and due to the number of owners over reporting or under reporting acres being included in other categories.

3/ Less than 0.5 percent.

Source: 1978 Resource Economics Survey





Table 7--Improvements made to the land converted to crop production in the conterminous United States, 1975-77

Improvement	Owners		Land converted	
	Number	Percent	Acres	Percent
Clearing brush or trees	114,715 1/(14.6)	52	3,166,600 (17.4)	35
Leveling	36,405 (16.9)	16	1,808,500 (29.1)	20
Drainage	32,704 (16.6)	15	1,740,500 (31.7)	19
Irrigation	23,739 (21.1)	11	1,392,400 (16.5)	15
Removal of rocks and hedgerows	30,237 (14.6)	14	1,113,500 (20.6)	12
Grass waterways	17,798 (38.4)	8	310,000 (28.8)	3
Gully control structures	12,702 (22.7)	6	209,200 (24.1)	2
Terraces	8,222 (47.1)	4	197,200 (32.0)	2
Other improvements	24,631 (53.2)	11	485,100 (32.7)	5
Acres with no improvement and/or incorrectly reported for respondents reporting some improvements on land	14,488	7	891,200	10
Total reporting improvements <sup>2/</sup>	178,062	81	7,234,300	79
No response	42,675 (18.5)	19	1,884,300 (15.5)	21
Total	220,737 (9.3)	100	9,118,600 (8.6)	100

<sup>1/</sup> Numbers in parentheses are coefficients of variation for the estimated values immediately above.

<sup>2/</sup> The sum of number and percent of owners making improvements and the sum of acres and percent of converted land improved exceed the total reporting improvements due to some owners reporting more than one improvement made to land converted to cropland.

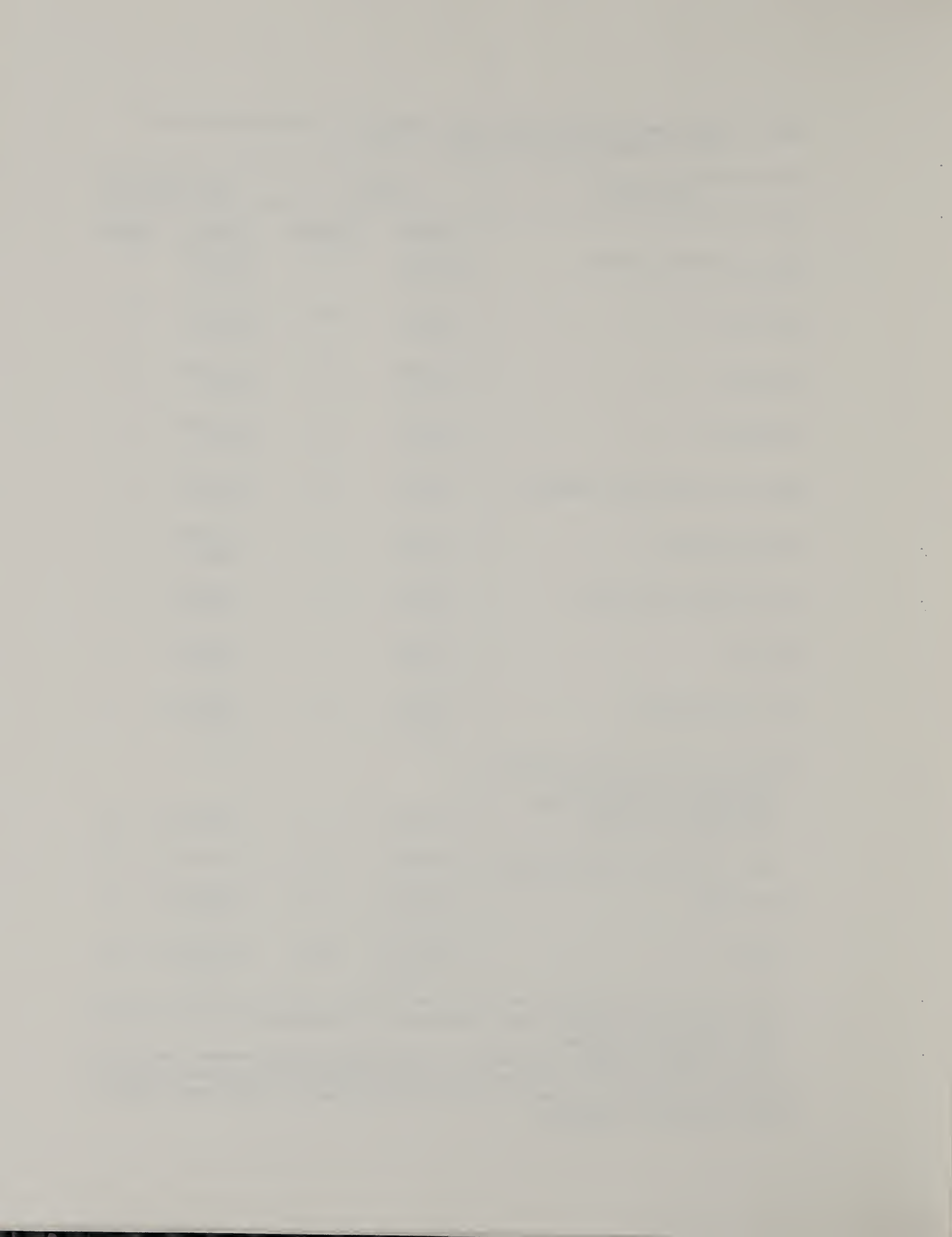


Table 8--Factors important in the decision to convert land to crop production in the conterminous United States, 1975-77.

Factors	Owners		Land converted	
	Number	Percent	Acres	Percent
More efficient farming operation	134,321	61	5,769,200	63
Changes in crop prices	42,171	19	1,221,000	13
Changes in livestock prices	23,066	10	1,524,500	17
Increased availability of operating or investment capital	20,088	9	902,600	10
Flood protection, drainage improvement, or irrigation water provided by government project	14,877	7	453,100	5
Increased availability of labor	13,532	6	430,800	5
Availability of a suitable renter or tenant	12,305	6	867,700	10
New permit for irrigation water	4,994	2	488,400	5
Other factors	19,494	9	976,100	11
No response	5,628	3	514,000	6
Total <sup>1/</sup>	220,737	100	9,118,600	100
	2/(9.3)		(8.6)	

<sup>1/</sup> The sum of owners (numbers and percent) converting land to crop production and land converted (acres and percent) sum to more than the totals of all owners reporting and acres reported converted to crop production due to some owners reporting more than one factor important in the decision to convert land to crop production.


<sup>2/</sup> Numbers in parentheses are coefficients of variation for the estimated values immediately above.

Source: 1978 Resource Economics Survey.





## APPENDIX 1

 Crop Reporting Board  
Economics, Statistics, & Cooperatives Service  
U.S. Department of Agriculture  
Washington, D.C. 20250

# ADDITIONS TO CROPLAND SURVEY

Form Approved  
O.M.B. Number 40-S-77043  
Approval Expires 9-30-79

001

LIST CODE 949

Dear Land Owner: - - -

Your assistance is needed to provide information about additions to cropland during 1975, 1976 or 1977 on land you had *either a full or part ownership interest in* on January 1, 1978 in the COUNTY SHOWN IN THE ADDRESS LABEL.

The information you provide will remain confidential and will be used only in combination with other reports to develop summaries about additions to cropland throughout the United States. - - Your response to this questionnaire is completely voluntary and not required by law.

Your returning the completed questionnaire by mail will be greatly appreciated and will help hold down survey cost. Additional contacts will be made with those not returning the questionnaires by mail to the extent possible to insure a representative sample is obtained.

Respectfully,

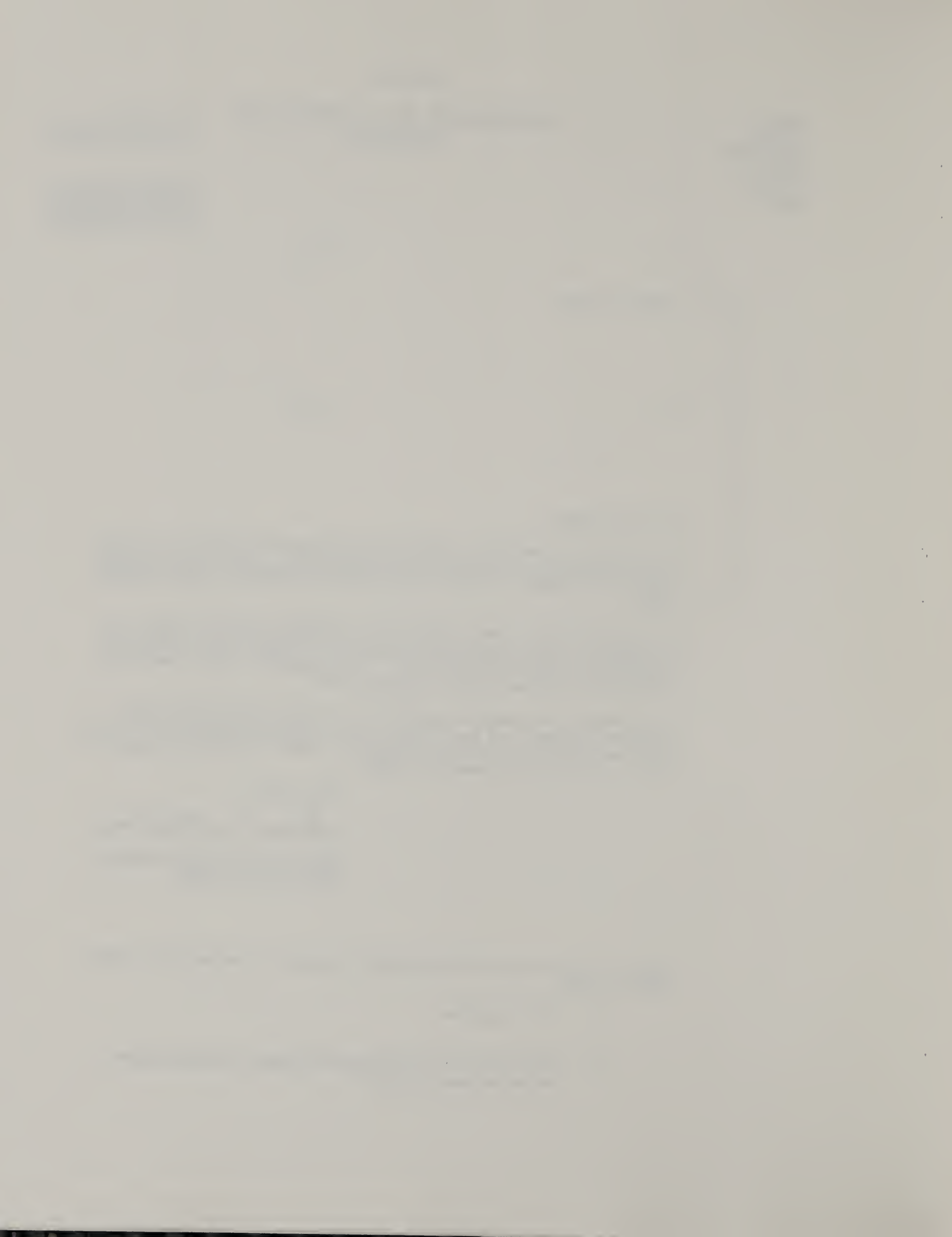


BRUCE M. GRAHAM, Chairman  
Crop Reporting Board

Was any of your land in THIS COUNTY converted to cropland during 1975, 1976 or 1977?

☐ YES, Continue.

☐ NO, Please sign the last page and return the questionnaire in the enclosed envelope.



1. How many acres of the land you owned as of January 1, 1978 in the COUNTY LISTED IN THE ADDRESS LABEL were converted to cropland during 1975, 1976 and 1977? (Do not include acreages that were in a tillage rotation during 1974, such as summer fallow or cropland pasture.)

A. Acres converted to cropland in 1975. . . . . ACRES  
 B. Acres converted to cropland in 1976. . . . . ACRES  
 C. Acres converted to cropland in 1977. . . . . ACRES  
 D. TOTAL acres converted to cropland. . . . . ACRES

002
003
004
005

NOTE: The acreage recorded for Item 1D, total, is the acreage referred to throughout the remainder of the questionnaire.

2. What was the previous use of this cropland? (Please enter acres)

A. Pasture, grass, or rangeland. . . . . ACRES  
 B. Timber or pulp production . . . . . ACRES  
 C. Recreation. . . . . ACRES  
 D. Idle. . . . . ACRES  
 E. Strip Mining. . . . . ACRES  
 F. Other (Please specify \_\_\_\_\_ ) . . . . . ACRES

007
008
009
010
011
012





3. Please check all of the following factors that were important in your decision to convert this land to cropland?

A. Increased availability of labor. . . . .	087
B. Increased availability of operating or investment capital. . . . .	088
C. Availability of a suitable renter or tenant. . . . .	089
D. New permit for irrigation water. . . . .	090
E. Flood protection, drainage improvement, or irrigation water provided by government project. . . . .	091
F. Changes in crop prices. . . . .	092
G. Changes in livestock prices. . . . .	093
H. More efficient farming operation. . . . .	094
I. Other (Specify _____). . . . .	095

4. What was the crop(s) grown on this land in 1978? If more than one crop was grown, please list the acreage for each crop.

CROP		ACRES
A. _____	135	127
B. _____	136	128
C. _____	137	129
D. _____	138	130



5. Had this land been used previously for crop production? (Please check)

1

YES

2

NO

3

DON'T KNOW

OFFICE  
USE

081

If YES, how many acres had been out of crop production during the following range(s) of years.

A. Less than 5 years. . . . .

ACRES

110

B. 5 - 10 years . . . . .

ACRES

111

C. More than 10 years. . . . .

ACRES

112

6. When did you become the owner of this new cropland?  
(Enter acreage in the appropriate range(s) of years)

A. After January 1, 1974 to December 31, 1977. . . . .

ACRES

113

B. 1965-1973 . . . . .

ACRES

114

C. Before 1965. . . . .

ACRES

115

7. What improvements were made to this new cropland between January 1, 1974 and January 1, 1978. (Enter acres for each type of improvement)

ACRES

A. Irrigation. . . . .

101

B. Drainage. . . . .

102

C. Clearing brush or trees. . . . .

103

D. Leveling. . . . .

104

E. Terraces. . . . .

105

F. Removal of rocks and hedgerows. . . . .

106

G. Gully control structures. . . . .

107

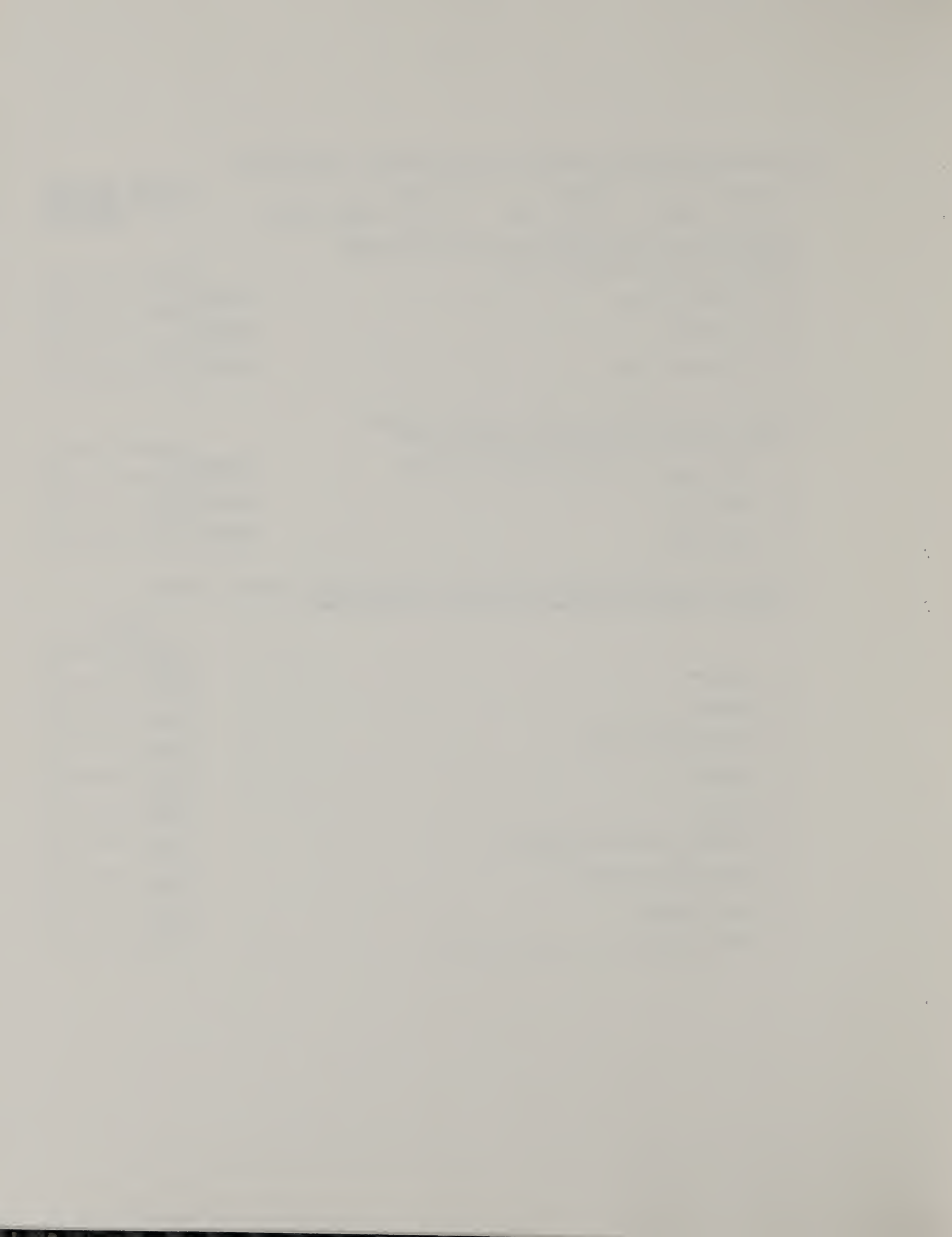
H. Grass waterways. . . . .

108

I. Other (Specify \_\_\_\_\_) . . . . .

109





8. Do you expect that all of this new cropland will continue to be used for crops in 1980? (Please check)

☐ 1

YES, Please sign and return this questionnaire in the enclosed envelope.

☐ 2

NO. . . . . OFFICE USE

033

If NO, indicate the approximate acreage that will be converted to a different use.

### USE PLANNED FOR 1980

- |   |       |     |
|---|-------|-----|
| A. Pasture grass or rangeland. . . . .                                | ACRES | 141 |
| B. Planted to trees. . . . .  | ACRES | 142 |
| C. Idle. . . . .  | ACRES | 143 |
| D. Strip Mining. . . . .  | ACRES | 144 |
| E. Residential, Commercial, Industrial,<br>or Transportation. . . . . | ACRES | 145 |
| F. Recreation. . . . .  | ACRES | 146 |
| G. Other (Please specify _____ ). . . . .                             | ACRES | 147 |

Reported by \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number ( \_\_\_\_\_ )  
Area Code \_\_\_\_\_

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11. Do you expect that all of the new students will continue to be 1965  
(or state in 1965) (Leave blank)

12. Please sign and return this questionnaire to the nearest campus  
[ ]

13. [ ]  
[ ]

14. Please indicate the approximate average that will be reported to a  
different sex.

USE PLANKS FOR 1965

1965	ACRES	A. Native seed or improved
1964	ACRES	B. Planted to trees
1963	ACRES	C. Lbs.
1962	ACRES	D. Strip Mining
1961	ACRES	E. Sandstone, Chemical, Industrial in Transition
1960	ACRES	F. Barren
1959	ACRES	G. Other (Please specify)

Reported by \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone Number / Area Code \_\_\_\_\_  
Date \_\_\_\_\_

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